

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Kindly replace paragraph [0015] with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] FIG. 3B shows a cross-section according to the line I-I ~~B-B~~ in FIG. 3A. FIG. 3C shows a cross-section according to line II-II ~~C-C~~ in FIG. 3A. FIG. 3D shows the male portion in a perspective.

Kindly replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

[0020] The end of the drill rod 10 for percussive drilling shown in FIGS. 3A-3D is formed with a spigot or male portion 11 according to the present invention provided with a male thread or external thread 12. The drill rod further has a through-going flush channel 13, through which a flush medium, generally air or water, is led. The front end surface of the male portion 11 forms a ring-shaped abutment surface 14, which at connection to a drill bit is intended to abut against a corresponding annular abutment surface at a bottom of a central recess in the drill bit. Along a region of the full profile of the thread disposed adjacent to the front end of the thread, the male portion 11 has a smallest first cross-sectional area X, see the hatched area in FIG. 3B. The male portion 11 comprises a last thread turn 15 or a thread exit with an increased second cross-sectional area relative to the field of the full profile of the thread, see the hatched area Y in FIG. 3C. The smallest cross-sectional area X of the male portion is provided in the region where the thread has full profile, and the second (larger) cross-sectional area Y is measured within the interval of 1-5 mm from the end of the region having the first cross-sectional area. ~~The full profile region extends all the way to the final turn 15 as shown in Fig. 3A.~~ The thread 12 is provided at a first portion 16 at the end of the male portion. A length or distance L of the portion 16 is defined as a length which begins at a plane P of the impact surface 14 of an imaginary, coaxial straight circular cylinder C that

touches the crest of the thread (which defines a major diameter D_y of the thread), see FIG.

3D. As the imaginary cylinder C progresses away from the abutment surface 14, it will eventually reach a point where it no longer touches the crest of the thread, as the cross-sectional area starts to increase, i.e., the thread is no longer at full profile. That point defines the other end of the length L. The diameter D_y (which corresponds to the diameter of the cylinder C) is preferably smaller than 37 mm. The plane P is perpendicular to the centerline CL. The quotient of the length L divided by the diameter D_y of the cylinder lies within the interval of 1-2. The interval is preferably 1.2-1.9 and most preferably 1.3-1.6. As an example, it can be mentioned that male portions with a length $L=57$ mm and cylinder diameter $D_y=32.85$ mm provide a ratio L/D_y of about 1.7 and male portions with $L=44.3$ mm and $D_y=32.85$ provide a ratio of about 1.3. The abutment surface 14 connects via a chamfer to a spigot 17 that is cylindrical or conical. The spigot 17 lacks thread and is in certain cases intended to steer on a recess in the drill bit when the connection has been mounted. The spigot 17 connects to the thread 12.